

at BS adapted to support the tail of each of the terminals and at least one wire groove for receiving at least one of the plurality of wires, the wire management member comprising a projection rod projecting from an end face of the body portion, the projection rod being received within the connector body cavity.

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed May 2, 2002, 2002, the Examiner rejected claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 5,346,412 ("Fedder et al."). By the present amendment, claim 21 is newly added. Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested. Claims 1-21 are currently pending.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Fedder et al. "A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference." *Verdegall Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of Calif.*, 814 F.2d 628, 631 (Fed. Cir. 1987). Because Fedder et al. does not recite each and every element set forth in claims 1-20, Fedder et al. cannot anticipate the wire management member (and connector and cable assembly using the wire management member) recited in claims 1-20 of the present application.

Fedder et al. discloses a break away key and latch assembly. Specifically, Fedder et al. discloses a cable connector 1, a housing block 2 and at least one electrical cable 3 having at least one signal wire 7 and at least one ground wire 7. Electrical contacts are received within the housing block 2. Each electrical contact 4 includes a front electrical receptacle 10 formed between two opposed, spring resilient fingers 11, and a rear, wire connecting portion 12 connected to a signal wire 7 or a ground wire 7. A separate insulative housing 5, having a plurality of cavities 6, is mated to the housing block 2 such that the spring fingers 11 of the electrical contacts 4 are received within the cavities 6. A break away key and latch assembly 30 is used to connect the housing block 2 to the insulative housing 5. Thus, contrary to the Examiner's characterization of Fedder et al., the housing 5, cavities 6 and break away key and latch assembly 30 do not constitute a wire management member nor do they perform, individually or collectively, any wire management functions. Rather, to the extent that the housing 5 is near any aspect of the contacts 4, it is at the

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spring finger portions 11, and not the tail portions 12 where the connection between the contacts 4 and the wires 7 occur. Thus, for at least this reason, Fedder et al. does not anticipate claims 1-20 of the present invention. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Fedder et al.

Applicants are presenting newly added claim 21. This claim is not anticipated by Fedder et al. Allowance of claim 21 is respectfully requested.

The Examiner also made the following prior art of record, but did not rely upon it: United States Patent No. 6,247,977 ("Tanaka et al."), United States Patent No. 5,957,735 ("Shinchi"), United States Patent No. 6,059,617 ("Shinchi"), United States Patent No. 6,142,838 ("Shinchi"), United States Patent No. 4,682,840 ("Daugherty et al."), United States Patent No. 6,217,396 ("Hwang et al"), United States Patent No. 6,135,829 ("Johnston"), United States Patent No. 6,155,879 ("Jyh-Haur"), United States Patent No. 5,254,019 ("Noschese"), United States Patent No. 6,231,392 ("van Woensel"), United States Patent No. 6,340,316 ("Nagai"), United States Patent No. 6,332,812 ("Kazuhara"), United States Patent No. 6,039,611 ("Yang"), United States Patent No. 6,083,056 ("Okabe et al.") and United States Patent No. 5,957,732 ("Ito et al."). Those references, whether taken alone or in combination, do not disclose, teach or suggest the subject matter claimed by the applicant.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider the rejections of the claims in light of the above remarks. Allowance of claims 1-21 is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conversation will facilitate the prosecution of the above-identified application, the Examiner is invited to call applicant's attorney.

Respectfully submitted,
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